



COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED

DAC #2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Walter N. Bakly, Jr.)
Serial No.: 10/036,167)
Filed: January 4, 2002)
METHOD FOR APPLYING)
RETROREFLECTIVE TARGET)
TO A SURFACE)

RECEIVED

FEB 21 2002

OFFICE OF PETITIONS
DEPUTY A/C PATENTS

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.183
TO SUSPEND RULES

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The referenced application was originally forwarded to the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") by depositing the application as first class mail with the Postal Service on or about October 31, 2001 addressed as follows:

Box Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

However, the Postal Service apparently failed to deliver mail as addressed above in a normal manner due to the anthrax event in the Washington, D.C. area. In this regard, the normal delivery time from Torrance, California to Washington, D.C. averages between 3-5 days. The undersigned thus anticipated that the application would have been received in the USPTO no later than November 5, 2001.

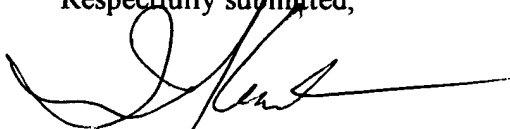
It is clear that the above-identified application was, in fact, impacted by the anthrax event since the application was not officially delivered to the USPTO until January 4, 2002, more than two (2) months after the deposit. Unfortunately for the

applicant, it was essential that the application receive a filing date prior to November 20, 2001 which normally would have been the case if the mail delivery was normal.

It is therefore requested, in the interests of justice and in view of the extraordinary situation, that the Commissioner waive/suspend the rules and assign a new filing date of November 15, 2001 to the above-identified application. It should be noted in this regard that 35 U.S.C. 21 provides a basis for the Commissioner to reassign a filing date.

It is also requested that the petition fee be waived in view of the extraordinary situation that caused this petition to be filed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Irving Keschner', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Irving Keschner
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 24,547
January 22, 2002